

The CLAN CALL

by Hapsburg Liebe

Illustrations by Irwin Myers

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SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER I.—Young Carlyle Whitburn Dale, or "Bill Dale," as he is known, son of a wealthy coal operator, John K. Dale, arrives at the Littleford Switch, in eastern Tennessee, abandoning a life of ease and incidentally a life of idleness, to take up his life in the mountains. He meets "Babe" Littleford, typical mountain girl. "Babe" is a character of the hills, takes him to John Moreland's home. Moreland is chief of his "clan," which has an old feud with the Littlefords. He tells Dale of the killing of his brother, David Moreland, years ago, owner of rich coal deposits, by a man named Carlyle. Moreland's description of "Carlyle" causes Dale to believe the man was his father.

CHAPTER II.—Dale arranges to make his home with the Moreland family, for whom he entertains a deep respect.

CHAPTER III.—Talking with "Babe" Littleford next day, Dale is ordered by "Black Adam" Ball, bully of the district, to leave "his girl" alone. Dale replies spiritedly, and they fight. Dale whips the bully, though badly used. He arranges with John Moreland to develop Dale's coal deposits. The old gentleman sends a challenge to John Moreland to meet him with his followers next day, in battle. Moreland agrees.

CHAPTER IV.—During the night of the fight between the Littlefords and the Morelands mysteriously disappears.

CHAPTER V.—Dale arranges to go to Cincinnati to secure money for the mining of the coal. The two clans find their weapons, which the women had hidden, and line up for battle. "Babe" is an effort to stop the fighting, crosses to the Moreland side of the river, and is accidentally shot by her father and seriously wounded.

CHAPTER VI.—To get proper surgical aid, John Moreland, Ben Littleford and Dale convey "Babe" unconscious, to the city. Doctors assure them she is not seriously hurt. Dale meets an old friend, Bobby McLaughlin, who had married Mattie Littleford. Telling his father of David Moreland's death, the old gentleman's actions convince him of his father's guilt in the killing of Moreland.

CHAPTER VII.—It is arranged that "Babe" is to stay with Mrs. McLaughlin to be educated. Dale, refusing his father's proffered financial aid to develop the mine, interests Newton Wheatley, capitalist who agrees to furnish the money. Dale realizes he loves "Babe."

CHAPTER VIII.

Major Bradley and Henderson Goff. When Bill Dale, the expert mining man Hayes and the two mountaineers stepped from a short passenger train at the Halfway switch, they were approached by the moonshiner, Heck, and a man whom Dale had never seen before. He was tall, and his bearing was erect and soldierlike, though he was every day of sixty years old. His eyes were blue and twinkling with everlasting good humor; his gray mustaches and imperial were exceedingly well cared for; his teeth were his own, and as white as a school-girl's, and they bore out his general air of neatness. He was, plainly, a Southerner of the old type.

"Who's that?" whispered Dale to John Moreland.

But Moreland didn't hear. He ran forward with his right hand outstretched, and so did Ben Littleford. Men could not have greeted a brother with more gladness, Dale thought.

"Hi, there, Major Bradley!" the hillman cried. "And how d'ye come on today?"

"I am very well, gentlemen, thank you," said the major, smiling. He shook their hands heartily. "The trainmen gave us your message yesterday," he went on, still smiling, "and we were delighted to learn that the young woman was out of danger. I trust you are all in good health, gentlemen."

They assured him that they were. Moreland turned to introduce Bill Dale and the mining man. From the moment that Major Bradley gripped Dale's hand they were friends.

"Mighty glad to know you, sir!" exclaimed the old lawyer. "I've been hearing a great deal about you, sir, over in the valley of the Doe. They seem to think there's nobody just like Bill Dale! It was Bill Dale this, and Bill Dale that; it was 'Here's where Bill Dale whipped Black Adam,' or 'Here's where Bill Dale was standing when such-and-such happened,' or 'Here's where Bill Dale crossed the fence!'"

"Hah-hah-hah!" slughishly laughed By Heck, who stood leaning on the muzzle of his rifle. "Bill Dale is all right, major; ye've shore got my word fo' that."

The others laughed. Then John Moreland said they'd better be moving, or they'd be late for dinner.

When they had put a hundred yards of David Moreland's mountain behind them, the old Southerner tugged slyly at Dale's sleeve and whispered:

"Let us fall behind a little, if you please. I want to speak with you privately."

They began to lag, and soon there was a distance of several rods between them and the others.

"I heard through Addie Moreland," began Bradley, his friendly hand on the younger man's arm, "about you and what you're planning to do for the Morelands. I tell you, sir, I thanked heaven for your coming, and you may count on me to help in any way I can. The Morelands are quite friendly to me now, though up to the middle of last summer they didn't like me any too well because I made Ben Littleford's cabin my home when out here."

where the big sycamore lies across the river. I've got something to tell you that will interest you."

He didn't wait for a reply, but turned away with By Heck. He went to the home of the Hecks ostensibly to have his fortune told—really, to get his dinner. The old woman didn't like him, but her inborn spirit of hospitality wouldn't permit her to refuse him a meal. She felt that she was almost even with him when, after shuffling and reading the cards, she told him that it would be wise for him to look out for a big, tall, grey-eyed young man with an oak tree in one hand and a couple of cliffs in the other.

Dale told Major Bradley and John Moreland of that which Goff had said to him at the gate. The major suggested forthwith that he go to meet the man; it couldn't possibly do any harm, and there was a chance that he would learn something of Goff's intentions.

So Dale went.

Goff was already there, waiting. He was sitting on a stone on the Moreland side of the river, whittling idly. When he saw Dale approaching, he smiled and nodded, rose and pocketed his knife.

"I want to make you an offer for that coal," he said at once.

"All right," Dale replied. "If your offer is big enough, it will be considered. But no shyster price is going to get that coal, Goff."

Goff frowned uneasily.

"You don't know coal, Mr. Dale. You don't know the business of mining—or I've got you sized up wrong. Thousands of men have gone bust trying to do things they weren't used to doing. There's a big chance, too, that the coal isn't what it looks to be on the surface. You'd better take a sure thing, and avoid a possibility of loss. I'll give you five thousand, spot cash, for that coal."

Dale shook his head. "You'll have to come heavier than that, y'know, if you get the Moreland coal."

"And an extra thousand for yourself!"

Dale laughed a low, queer laugh. "You amuse me, Goff," said he. "Seems to me you've missed your calling in life. What a bunch of a kind-villain you'd make in melodrama! You wouldn't have to act, either; you'd have to be just your natural self. And you make me mad, too, Goff. Because I'm on the square with the Morelands and everybody else—now, get that!"

The corners of the shyster coal man's mouth came down.

"Oh, hosh—don't pass me that virtue stuff. Every man has his price, high or low. You've got yours, and I've got mine. I'll give you five thousand, spot cash, if you'll persuade John Moreland to sell to me for five thousand, and nobody'll ever know you got a rakedown from me. It's all the coal is worth, that ten thousand. Well, yes?"

Dale was of the type that goes pale with anger, and he was pale now. He clenched his hands.

"You can't insult me like that and get away with it, Goff," he clipped.

"We're going to fight, Goff, and I'm going to put a kicking on you that fifteen horses can't pull off. Get me?"

He threw aside his coat and rolled his sleeves to his elbows. Henderson Goff ran his right hand quickly to a rear trouser pocket and brought back a stub-nosed automatic pistol, which he turned threateningly toward Bill Dale.

"Go easy, friend," Goff said very complacently. "There's no use in getting sore. I want the coal, that's all. If I can't get it by fair means, I'll get it in another way. Oh, I don't mind telling you; one man's oath is as good in court as another man's. If you don't take me up at ten thousand,

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quently. "Furthermore, I say that you are a coward and a scoundrel, and that you haven't got the insides in you to fight me a fair man's fight. If you'll only pocket that thing you've got in your hand, I'll mow down half an acre of meadow bush with your body."

The other turned red, then white, then red again. Bill Dale's words had lashed him keenly. His eyes became like hard black beads, and he began to raise the wicked-looking pistol as though he meant to fire.

Then there was the sound of a breaking twig behind him, and a voice drawled out:

"Drap it, Mister—drap the funny little gun, or the middle o' Tarment is yore pot'ion right now!"

It was the moonshiner, By Heck, and his rifle was leveled. Goff dropped the pistol. Heck grinned, advanced slowly, took up the weapon that the hillfolk call a "coward's gun" and tossed it into the river.

"Now git—cut the mustard—light a rag away from here," he ordered, "before I let Bill Dale loose on ye!"

Goff went away rapidly.

"I wonder if you heard him say anything that would make you valuable as a witness," muttered Dale. "In the event we want to have him arrested?"

"I heard you tell him 'at he was afraid to fight ye a fair man's fight, and 'at he'd pocket that thing he held in his hand 'ef he mow down twenty acres o' meadow bush with his low-down body—that'd be vallyable in co'te wouldn't it?"

Dale smiled. Then he frowned. (Continued next week)

TOWN LINE

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ellison and father were calling at Matt Johnson's Sunday.

Claude Church and Charles Smith were fishing near Harrison a few days last week.

Walter and Hade Javens of St. Louis were callers at Frank Whitecraft's Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Church and family spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Church.

Dan Carter and Bert Hammond of Alma were calling in this vicinity Sunday.

Mr. Martin of St. Louis was a caller at Frank Simmons of Mt. Pleasant was calling in this vicinity and Arcadia one day last week.

Miss Ida Huff of Clarion, Mich., is visiting at Mr. and Mrs. Matt Johnson's.

Rex Johnson called on friends in Elwell Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Olive Nelson of Saginaw was visiting relatives near Elwell the past few days.

Cecil Johnson of Alma was a caller at F. Whitecraft's Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Johnson and family visited his parents one night last week.

Harry Shivers of Alma was calling in this vicinity Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Giles Isham and daughters spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Ed. VanCore and family of Arcadia.

Rex Johnson called at t Charlie Fisher's near Elwell Sunday.

Mrs. Homer Osborn and children have been visiting her brother, Frank Hall and family.

Grandma Hoyt of Alma is spending the week with her daughter, Mrs. Kora Fookes.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Schiff and Miss Mary Schiff and Miss Dunlap of Alma were Sunday callers at the Chas. Judy home.

Miss Mertie Wilber spent Saturday and Sunday with her sister, Mrs. Roy Lentz.

Fred Osborn of Grover street, Alma, spent the week with Geo. Judy.

WRIGHT SCHOOL

Wesley Webb made a business trip to Ithaca last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorland Smith and son, David, of Port Huron spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hector Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Vancore, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. S. Vancore, Jr., and little daughter spent Sunday in Mt. Pleasant.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN.
In the Circuit Court for the County of Gratiot—in Chancery.
Claude D. Wooley, and Edna Wooley Plaintiff, vs. William S. Brown, Joseph Brown, Asahel M. Bannister, et al. Defendants. Heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given that the above named defendants, and each of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, cause their and each of their appearance to be entered in this cause within three months from the date of this order, and in case of their appearance, they cause their answer to the said bill of complaint to be filed and a copy thereof to be served on the attorney for plaintiff within twenty days after service on them of a copy of said bill of complaint and a notice of this order, and that in default thereof, said bill of complaint to be taken as confessed by each and all of said defendants, and also that within forty days from the date of this order plaintiff cause a copy of this order to be published in the above entitled cause, and from the date of publication thereof, that said plaintiff does not know and has been unable after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the names of the persons who are included as defendants therein without being named and that it can not be ascertained in what part of the county the said defendants, William S. Brown, Joseph Brown, Asahel M. Bannister, reside.

Therefore, on motion of Searl & Searl, attorneys for plaintiff, it is ordered that the above named defendants and their and each of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, cause their and each of their appearance to be entered in this cause within three months from the date of this order, and in case of their appearance, they cause their answer to the said bill of complaint to be filed and a copy thereof to be served on the attorney for plaintiff within twenty days after service on them of a copy of said bill of complaint and a notice of this order, and that in default thereof, said bill of complaint to be taken as confessed by each and all of said defendants, and also that within forty days from the date of this order plaintiff cause a copy of this order to be published in the above entitled cause, and from the date of publication thereof, that said plaintiff does not know and has been unable after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the names of the persons who are included as defendants therein without being named and that it can not be ascertained in what part of the county the said defendants, William S. Brown, Joseph Brown, Asahel M. Bannister, reside.

Edward J. Moinet, Circuit Judge.

Searl & Searl, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Business Address: St. Johns, Michigan.

The foregoing suit involves the title of lands described as lots seven and eight Block One Subdivision to Bannister Michigan being a part of the North-east quarter of the North-west quarter of the North-west quarter of Section Thirty-four, Township Nine North Range One West, State of Michigan, and is brought to quiet the plaintiff's title thereto.

Searl & Searl, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Business Address: St. Johns, Michigan.

STATE OF MICHIGAN.
In the Circuit Court for the County of Gratiot—in Chancery.
Odel Feet, Plaintiff, vs. Katherine Ott, Leah E. Bond, Augusta Rayner, Mattie Root, Emma P. Campbell, Margie Williams, Jimmie Adams, Katie Smith, Charles W. Giddings, Edward Cusick, Nora Putnam, Anna Johnston, Florence Bland, Fred T. Henry, Myra Smith, and the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns of Nelson B. Jones, James B. Porter, and Daniel L. Case, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given that the above named defendants, and each of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, cause their and each of their appearance to be entered in this cause within three months from the date of this order, and in case of their appearance, they cause their answer to the said bill of complaint to be filed and a copy thereof to be served on the attorney for plaintiff within twenty days after service on them of a copy of said bill of complaint and a notice of this order, and that in default thereof, said bill of complaint to be taken as confessed by each and all of said defendants, and also that within forty days from the date of this order plaintiff cause a copy of this order to be published in the above entitled cause, and from the date of publication thereof, that said plaintiff does not know and has been unable after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the names of the persons who are included as defendants therein without being named and that it can not be ascertained in what state or county they and each of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, reside at the date of this order, and that defendant, Katherine Ott, and the unknown heirs of Nelson B. Jones, James B. Porter, and Daniel L. Case, reside in the state of Washington; that defendant, Nora Putnam, resides at Renton in the state of Washington; that defendant, Anna Johnston, resides at Chiloquin in the state of Oregon; that defendant, Florence Bland, resides at Whittier in the state of Indiana; that defendant, Myra Smith resides in the state of California; and that defendant, Fred T. Henry, resides at Ashland, in the state of North Carolina.

Therefore, on motion of Searl & Searl, attorneys for plaintiff, it is ordered that the above named defendants and their and each of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, cause their and each of their appearance to be entered in this cause within three months from the date of this order, and in case of their appearance, they cause their answer to the said bill of complaint to be filed and a copy thereof to be served on the attorney for plaintiff within twenty days after service on them of a copy of said bill of complaint and a notice of this order, and that in default thereof, said bill of complaint to be taken as confessed by each and all of said defendants; and also that within forty days from the date of this order plaintiff cause a copy of this order to be published in the above entitled cause, and from the date of publication thereof, that said plaintiff does not know and has been unable after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain the names of the persons who are included as defendants therein without being named and that it can not be ascertained in what state or county they and each of their unknown heirs, devisees, legatees and assigns, reside at the date of this order, and that defendant, Katherine Ott, and the unknown heirs of Nelson B. Jones, James B. Porter, and Daniel L. Case, reside in the state of Washington; that defendant, Nora Putnam, resides at Renton in the state of Washington; that defendant, Anna Johnston, resides at Chiloquin in the state of Oregon; that defendant, Florence Bland, resides at Whittier in the state of Indiana; that defendant, Myra Smith resides in the state of California; and that defendant, Fred T. Henry, resides at Ashland, in the state of North Carolina.

Edward J. Moinet, Circuit Judge.

Searl & Searl, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Business address: St. Johns, Michigan.

NOTICE
The foregoing suit involves the title of lands described as the southwest quarter (1/4) of section one (1) in the township of Hamilton, Gratiot County, Michigan, and is brought to quiet the plaintiff's title thereto.

Searl & Searl, Attorneys for Plaintiff, Business address: St. Johns, Michigan.

MORTGAGE SALE
Whereas default has been made in the condition of that mortgage dated March 11, 1914, given by Frank Mockridge and Lottie Mockridge, husband and wife, to Henry Shiner, of Brockridge, Mich., which said mortgage was recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for the County of Gratiot, Michigan, in Liber 134 of Mortgages on Page 344.

Whereas the said mortgage have made default in the payment of \$700 of the principal sum of said mortgage (at the rate of \$100 each year, beginning March 11, 1919) together with interest on the principal sum for one year amounting to \$275 which was due and payable March 11, 1922.

Whereas it is provided by the terms of said mortgage that in case such default should continue for thirty days, the whole principal sum of said mortgage together with all arrearages of interest thereon shall at the option of the mortgagee and without notice become due and payable immediately thereafter; although the period limited for the payment thereof may not have expired, and more than thirty days having elapsed since such default, and the said mortgage having exercised hereby such option, and declared the whole amount of principal and interest unpaid upon such mortgage now due and payable.

And whereas the amount of principal and interest so unpaid and now declared to be due are payable upon such mortgage is the sum of Four thousand eight hundred Dollars (\$4800.00) and the further sum of Five and 62/100 Dollars paid for insurance on the mortgaged property and added to the principal sum thereof as provided in said mortgage, together with costs of this foreclosure including an attorney fee of \$25.00, as provided by law, and no suit or proceedings at law have been instituted for the recovery of said debt or any part thereof whereby the power of sale contained in said mortgage has become operative.

THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that by virtue of the said power of sale the statute in such case made and provided, the said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described at public auction to the highest bidder, at the north front door of the Court House in the Village of Ithaca, in the County of Gratiot, Michigan, on Saturday, July 22, 1922, at the hour of one o'clock in the afternoon of said day, which said premises are described in said mortgage as follows: The south half of the southeast quarter of Section Four (4) in Town Twelve (12) North of Range One (1) West, except one-half acre of land in the southeast corner of the above description owned by the Free Methodist Church, all in the township of Wheeler, County of Gratiot and State of Michigan.

Dated at Alma, Mich., April 21, 1922.

HENRY SHINER, Mortgagee.

D. L. Johnson, Attorney for Mortgagee, Address: Alma, Mich. 49-12e

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